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Wimborne Minster Urban District

Medical Officer's REPORT

1947

TILSED WIMBORNE

To the Chairman and Members of the Urban District Council of Wimborne Minster.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit to you my Annual Report for the year 1947.

ERIC H. MARKBY,
M.O.H.

1. Public Health Staff.

Medical Officer (part time): Dr. Eric H. Markby.

Sanitary Inspector, combined with Office of Surveyor:
Mr. A. H. E. Gellender, A.R.S.I.

2. Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

	1947
Area (in acres)	653
Registrar General's estimate of Population as at 30th June	4233
Number of Inhabited Houses (from rate book) ...	1342
Rateable Value	£32117
Sum represented by one penny rate	£130 approx.

Social conditions, including the chief industries carried on in the area, and the extent of unemployment: The chief industries are Engineering and Building Trades.
The unemployment in the Urban Area was negligible.
Fourteen houses were built.

The Council have commenced 12 houses.

Vital Statistics.

	1947 M	1947 F
Live Births (legitimate)	36	46
Live Births (illegitimate)	3	2
Still Births	2	—
Birthrate per 1,000 population	17.6	
Still birthrate per 1,000 births	34.4	
Deaths	26	37
Crude death rate	12.6	
Death from Puerperal causes	—	—
Infants under 1 year of age	1	1
Death rate per 1,000 live births	23	
Legitimate Infant death rate	23	
Illegitimate Infant death rate	—	
Deaths from Cancer	5	7
Measles	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	—	—

2a. Birth rates, Civilian Death rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Mortality and Case rates for certain Infectious Diseases in the year 1947.

(Provisional Figures based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns).

	England and Wales	126 C. B's and Great Towns including London	148 Smaller Towns Resident Pop 25,000-50,000 1931 census	London Adm. County
	*Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population.			
Births—				
Live Births	x20·5	23·3	22·2	22·7
Still Births	x0·50	0·62	0·54	0·49
Deaths—				
All Causes	x12·0	13·0	11·9	12·8
Typhoid and Paratyphoid ...	0·00	0·00	0·00	0·00
Scarlet Fever	0·00	0·00	0·00	0·00
Whooping Cough ...	0·02	0·03	0·02	0·02
Diphtheria	0·01	0·01	0·01	0·01
Influenza	0·09	0·09	0·08	0·08
Smallpox	0·00	0·00	0·00	—
Measles	0·01	0·02	0·02	0·01
Notifications—				
Typhoid Fever	0·01	0·01	0·00	0·01
Paratyphoid Fever ...	0·01	0·01	0·01	0·01
Cerebro Spinal Fever ...	0·05	0·06	0·05	0·05
Scarlet Fever	1·37	1·54	1·37	1·31
Whooping Cough ...	2·22	2·41	2·02	2·80
Diphtheria	0·13	0·15	0·14	0·14
Erysipelas	0·19	0·21	0·18	0·22
Smallpox	0·00	0·00	0·01	0·00
Measles	9·41	9·13	9·58	5·29
Pneumonia	0·79	0·89	0·68	0·64
	Rates per 1,000 Live Births.			
Deaths—				
All Causes (under 1 year of age)	†41	47	36	37
Enteritis and Diarrhoea under 2 years of age	5·8	8·0	3·7	4·8
	Rates per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births :			
Notifications—				
Puerperal Fever	7·16	8·99	6·27	1·21
Puerperal Pyrexia ...				6·94**

Maternal Mortality—In England and Wales—

	Rates per 1,000 Total (Live and Still Births)	Rates per million Women aged 15—44
140 Abortion with sepsis	0·10	9
141 Abortion without sepsis	0·06	5
147 Puerperal Infections	0·16	
142—146, 148—150 Other Maternal causes ...	0·85	

*A dash (—) signifies that there were no deaths.
xRates per 1,000 total population.
†Per 1,000 related births. xxIncluding Puerperal Fever.

3. General Provision of Health Services for Area.

(*a*) *Laboratory facilities.* The Dorset County Laboratories at Glyde Path Road, Dorchester, with branch Laboratory at the Municipal Buildings, Poole, afford a comprehensive and up-to-date service.

(*b*) *Ambulance facilities.* For general purposes and accidents the Council maintain a 23 h.p. Bedford Ambulance, with the capacity of two lying and four sitting cases, or three lying cases.

For Infectious Diseases, ambulance conveyance is provided by the Borough of Poole, the contracting authority for the hospitalisation of infectious illness, where called for.

Disinfection of premises, bedding, etc., is also carried out by contract with the Borough of Poole.

(*c*) *Clinics and Treatment Centres* (under the authority of the Dorset County Council) :—

Child Welfare Clinic held on alternate Tuesday afternoons at the Women's Institute, Leigh Road.

Orthopaedic Clinic held monthly on Wednesdays at the Women's Institute, Leigh Road.

Ear, Nose and Throat. School children found to require operative treatment for unhealthy tonsils and adenoids receive this at the Wimborne Cottage Hospital.

Children are examined for defective vision periodically and if necessary spectacles provided.

School Dental Service. Schools are visited periodically by the travelling Dental Clinic of the County Education Authority.

Tuberculosis. The County Tuberculosis Clinic is open on Mondays and Thursdays at King Street, Poole, with a centre for radiography artificial pneumo-thorax and other aspects of control and treatment at the County Home, Nirvana, Commercial Road, Parkstone.

Venereal Diseases. Dorset County Clinic is held at Cornelia Hospital, Poole, on Tuesdays and Fridays, and at Boscombe Hospital, Shelley Road, Boscombe, on Wednesdays and Saturdays, with separate hours for men and women.

Hospitals : General and Maternity. Wimborne has its own Cottage Hospital with accommodation for 34 patients, but no Maternity Ward. Plans have been passed for a Maternity Hospital to be built in Wimborne.

Cornelia Hospital, Poole and the Royal Victoria and West Hants Hospital, Boscombe, both afford full general and maternity facilities and Allen House, a County Welfare Institution, has 56 beds—23 Men, 33 Women. Maternity—1 bed at Allen House and 5 cots.

Infectious Diseases. The district has a contract with the Borough of Poole for the treatment of suitable cases at the Borough Isolation Hospital, Alderney,Newtown, Poole.

Small pox incidence is provided for by the County Council at the Isolation Hospital of the Wareham and Purbeck Rural District.

4. Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

(1) *Water* (*a*) No extensions of public water supplies were made during the year. The town is supplied by the Bournemouth Gas and Water Company. The supply has been satisfactory in quality and quantity. Bacteriological Examinations are made by the Bournemouth Gas and Water Company regularly. There are a few wells. Samples are taken regularly and infected wells condemned.

Drainage and Sewerage (*b*) Sewerage and sewerage disposal. The Leigh Park Plant for 100 houses was completed. The Sewerage Scheme for Wimborne is still in abeyance.

(2) *Rivers and Streams.* No action taken pending decision as to the provision of a sewerage scheme.

(3) (i) *Closet Accommodation.* There are 1078 earth closets and about 365 water closets (estimated).

(ii) Public Cleansing. A weekly collection of house refuse is in operation.

(iii) Sanitary Inspection of the Area carried out regularly

(iv) Dairies, cowsheds, meat and other food shops are being inspected regularly by the M.O.H.
Quantities of meat banned and other foodstuffs condemned: Meat, Home Killed, 1276 lbs.; Meat, Imported, 98 lbs.; Meat, Imported Canned, 1101 lbs.; Fish, 72 stones; Other Foodstuffs, 535 lbs.; Tinned Foods, Miscellaneous, 139 tins.

(v) Company Sites. There are none in the area.

(vi) Smoke abatement. No nuisance in the town.

(vii) Swimming Pools and Baths. There are none in the district, but there is a small Paddling Pool for children, which is cleaned our regularly.

The Water supply of the Schools in the Urban District is satisfactory, being from the mains of the Bournemouth Gas and Water Co. With regard to sanitation, the schools are in the same position as the rest of the Urban District, i.e., there is no Main Drainage. The schools are visited by the M.O.H. as soon as a case of Infectious Disease is notified, and the necessary steps are taken to endeavour to prevent spread of infection.

5. Notifiable Diseases —(other than Tuberculosis.).

	1947 M	1947 F
Measles	34	39
Whooping Cough	10	14
Pneumonia	2	1
Erysipelas	—	1
Meningitis	1	—
Poliomyelitis	1	3
	48	58

6. Protection against Diptheria.

The total number protected to the end of 1947 have been as follows :—

Year	1 to 4 years	5 to 15 years	Notifications	Deaths
Up to 1940	33	3	7	—
1941	36	43	3	—
1942	143	244	1	—
1943	79	71	—	—
1944	14	7	—	—
1945	10	34	—	—
1946	35	1	—	—
1947	47	4	—	—

Prior to 1943 the numbers were all inclusive. For 1943 and 1944, the figures refer to actual residents in the Urban District. The earlier figures, for instance, included Grammar School children, the majority of whom live outside the District. They also included temporary evacuee residents whose numbers gradually fell away during 1943 and 1944 to a negligible total.

The estimated rate of protection is about 95 per cent.

7. Tuberculosis. New Cases and Mortality 1947.

	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non Respiratory		Respiratory		Non Respiratory	
Age	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 and under 5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 and under 15	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
15 and under 25	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
25 and under 35	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
35 and under 45	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
45 and under 55	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
55 and under 65	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 and over	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	—	3	2	—	2	1	—	—

8. Causes of Death.

Code No.	Cause	1947 M	1947 F
6	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ...	2	1
13	Cancer of Uterus		2
14	Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum ...	2	
[illegible]	Cancer of Breast		3
16	Cancer of all other sites	3	2
18	Intracranial vascular lesions	2	6
19	Heart Disease	8	6
20	Other Diseases of Circulatory System ...	2	5
21	Bronchitis	1	3
22	Pneumonia	1	
27	Other Digestive Disorders	1	
28	Nephritis	1	3
33	Suicide	1	1
34	Road Traffic Accident		1
36	All other causes	2	4
		26	37